State of California
Business, Transportation & Housing Agency
Department of Transportation

Prepared By: Brice D. Paris Program Manager Right of Way (916) 654-5075 HIGHWAY RIGHT OF WAY MATTERS Airspace Lease Direct Negotiations 12-ORA073-0001-01

Action Item

CTC Meeting: March 28-29, 2001

Agenda Item: 2.4c.

Original Signed By

W. J. EVANS, Deputy Director

Finance March 1, 2001

<u>LAGUNA NIGUEL/ ROUTE 73 AIRSPACE LEASE – MERCEDES-BENZ OF LAGUNA NIGUEL</u> (Proposed Lessee)

It is recommended that the California Transportation Commission (CTC) authorize the execution of a lease between the State of California, Department of Transportation and the proposed lessee Mercedes-Benz of Laguna Niguel.

The proposed lease area is located mostly along the easterly side of Star Drive, a cul-de-sac street, which serves solely as a feeder street to the Mercedes-Benz dealership. A portion of the site is located far beneath the southbound, Route 73 overhead viaduct. The auto dealership is located adjacent to the proposed airspace site. The site would be used as a display area for cars, landscaping for beautification of Star Drive, and for signage. The City of Laguna Niguel is strongly in favor of this use. An adjacent airspace site is planned for lease to the County of Orange and will be improved as a staging area to serve the existing Oso Creek trail. The State, City, County and proposed lessee have coordinated in planning these two airspace sites.

The 31,696 SF lease site is very irregular in shape. A long narrow strip of land, mostly less than 20' wide, runs westerly along Paseo De Colina and then jogs southerly, and narrows down along Star Drive. The site then widens slightly in a triangular form at the southerly most section. Under a previously approved encroachment permit, a majority of the landscaping has already been installed and is being well maintained by Mercedes-Benz of Laguna Niguel. Landscaping will ultimately represent 22,973 SF of the site. The remaining 8,723 SF would be used as a car display area. The topography of the display area is level. This site has not previously been offered for lease. The proposed lessee is the only private property owner directly adjacent to this site.

The proposed lessee has agreed to a lease under the following terms and conditions:

Term: 15 years; and (3) 5-year Option Periods

Area: 31,696 SF

Use: 22,973 SF of Landscaping and 8,723 SF of Car Display area

Consideration: \$500.00/Month (\$6,000.00/Year), based on a fair market appraisal

Adjustment: Annual rental increase adjustment of 5.00 %

Reevaluation: Every tenth year

Cancellation: This lease may be terminated by either party by providing ninety (90) days prior notice,

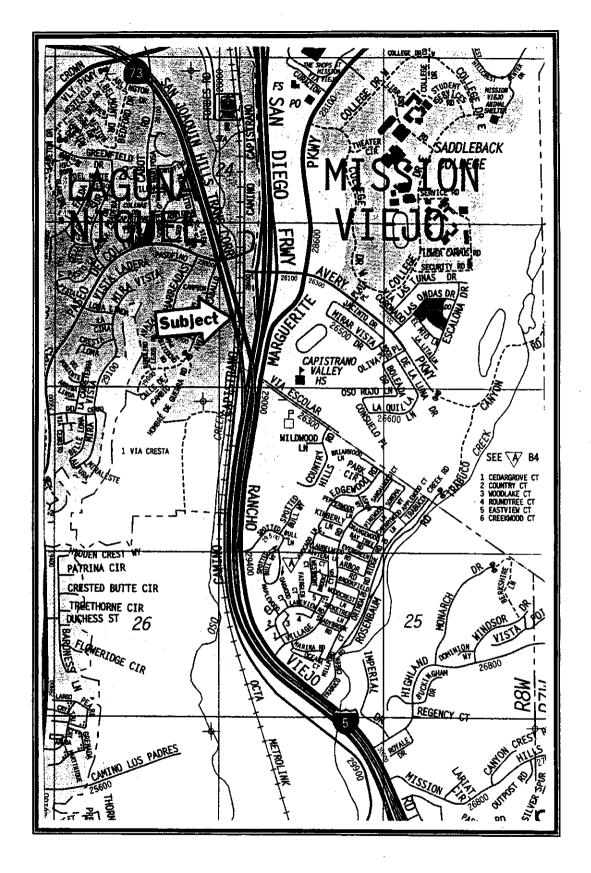
in writing, but in no event prior to two years from the date of execution of this lease. In addition the lease provides that the State may take possession of the lease area upon providing the lessee with one-hundred-eighty (180) days notice, if the lease area is

needed for a future transportation project.

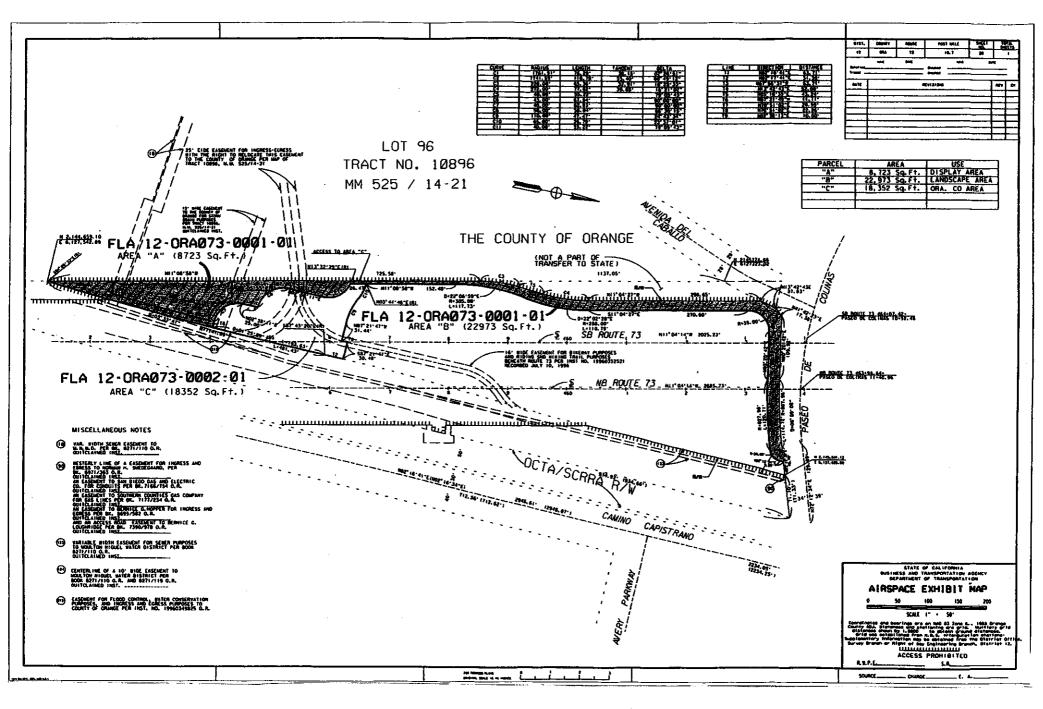
The optimum return for this site will be realized through a lease with said proposed lessee for display and landscaping purposes. The lease would: add revenue to the State; relieve Caltrans of continuing maintenance expenses; add cost-free to the aesthetics of a public street, and does not detract from the safety and aesthetics of the freeway structure or overhead freeway. The rental rate is based upon a Fair Market Appraisal and Highest and Best Use Study. We therefore, request approval of a directly negotiated lease to the proposed lessee under the terms and conditions outlined above.

The proposed lease does not require an Airspace Advisory Committee (AAC) recommendation as it qualifies as an exception to the normal requirements, under a pilot program approved by the AAC in October 1998 for non-complex transactions. The lease is less than \$5,000.00 per month, real estate issues are non-complex and terms and conditions are standard, as defined by the AAC under the pilot program.

Attachments (vicinity map and site maps)



VICINITY MAP - FLA 12 ORA073-0001-01



SHADED AREA REPRESENTS MERCEDES-BENZ TROPOSED AIRSPACE S'TE (FLA 12-ORA073-000_01)